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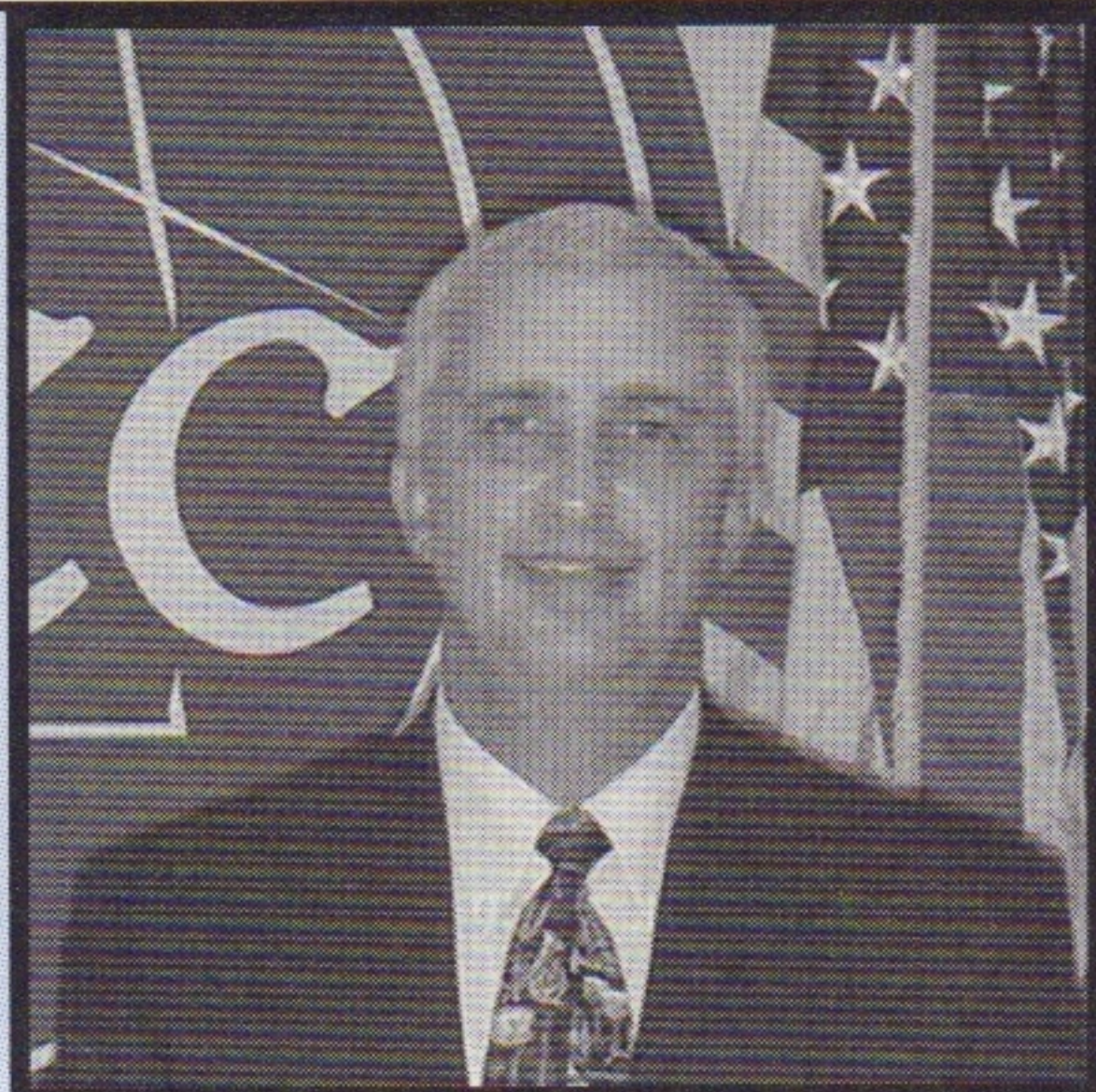
Spring 2005



Enriching Lives by Expanding Opportunities

2005 ACA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President's Message



Dr. Jim Prucnal,
ACA President
Gadsden State Community College

Conference Theme: "Enriching Lives by Expanding Opportunities."

The opportunities we offer our students come in many forms: classroom, laboratory, technology, athletics, the arts, student activities, and social development. We also enrich lives through Adult Education, the Alabama Technology Network, the C.I.T.Y. program, and Skills Training. Whether we are educating the workforce, providing transfer credits, or helping an individual achieve a personal goal, we expand opportunities for the people of our state.

The ACA Executive Committee is planning a conference that highlights opportunities, creates new possibilities, and enriches the professional lives for all. I hope you will take the opportunity to join your colleagues at the 2005 ACA Conference in Birmingham, November 20 through 22, and benefit from this enrichment.

Opportunities and the Alabama College System are synonymous. Everyday we give the citizens of Alabama greater opportunity to enrich their lives, reach their goals, and have hope in a better future. Because of the opportunity that abounds at our colleges, the ACA Executive Board recently voted as the 2005 ACA



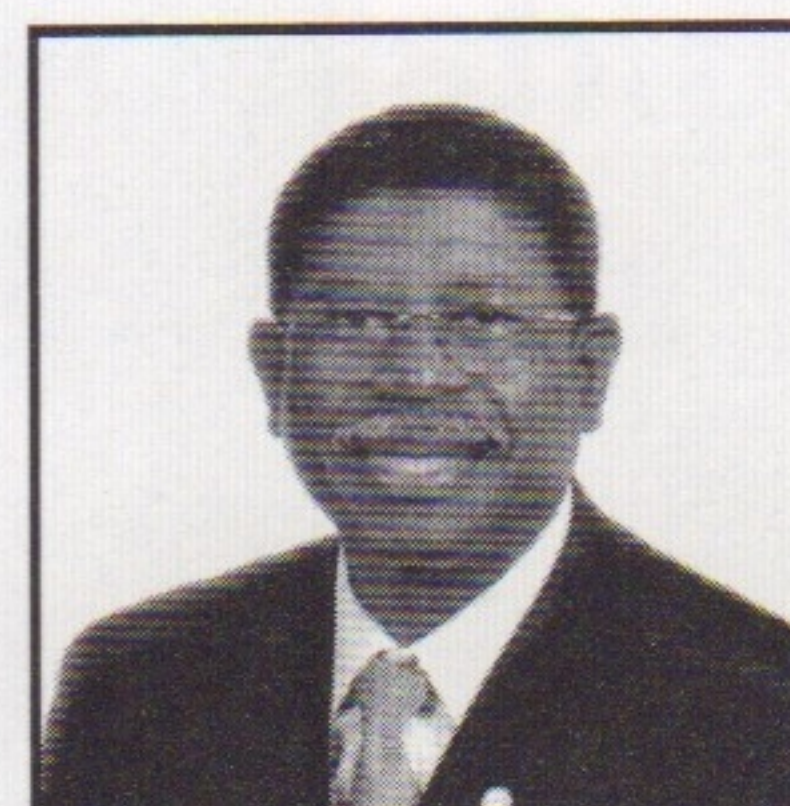
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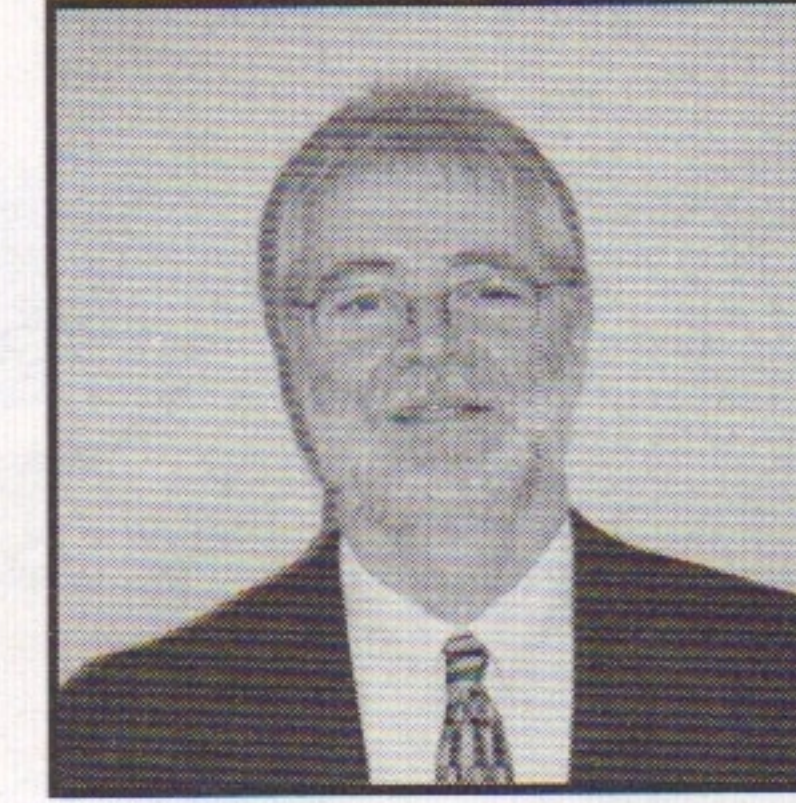
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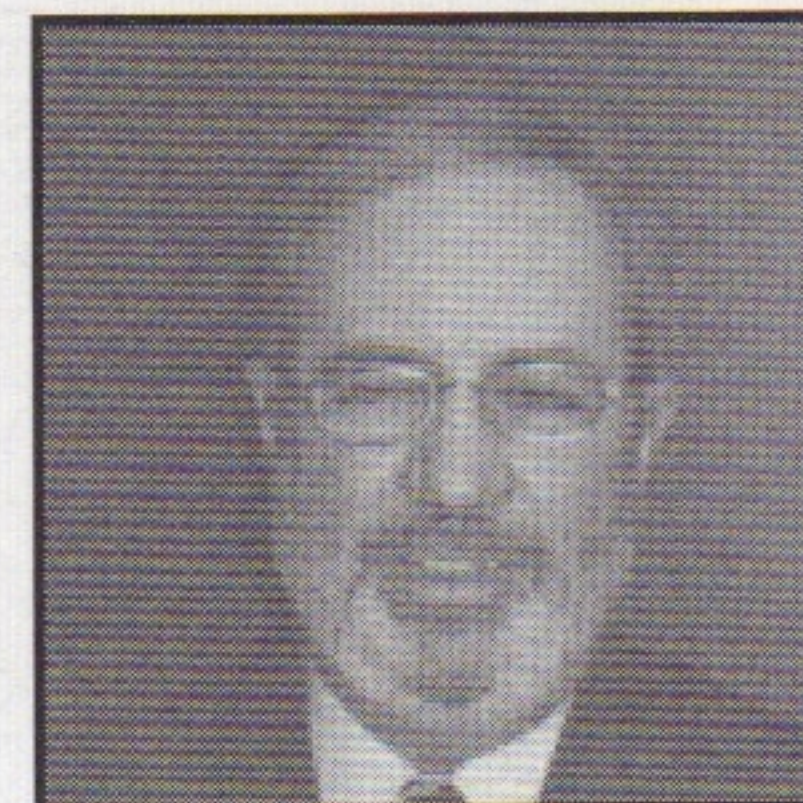
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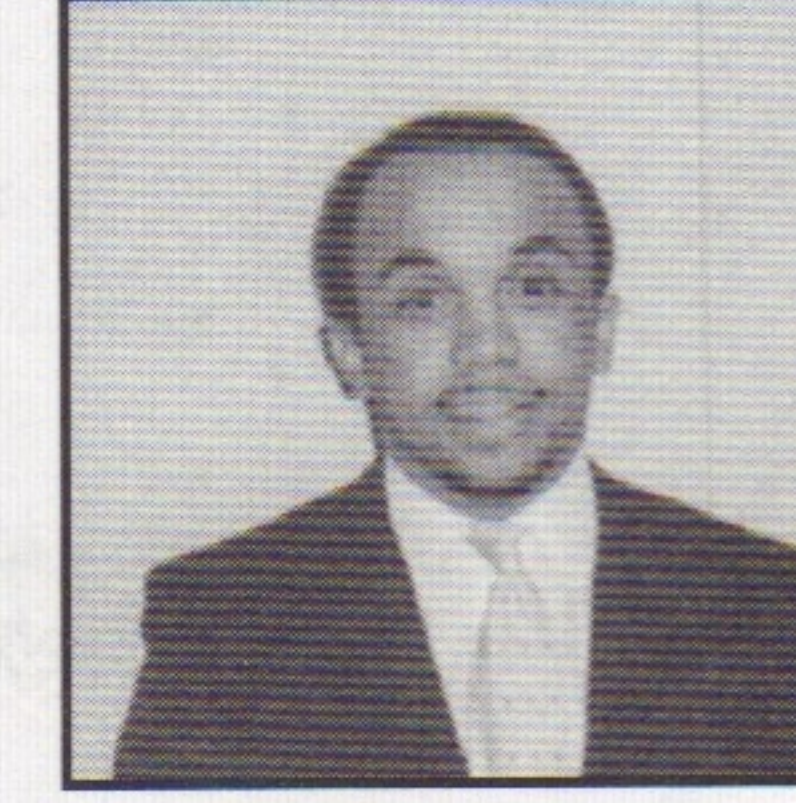
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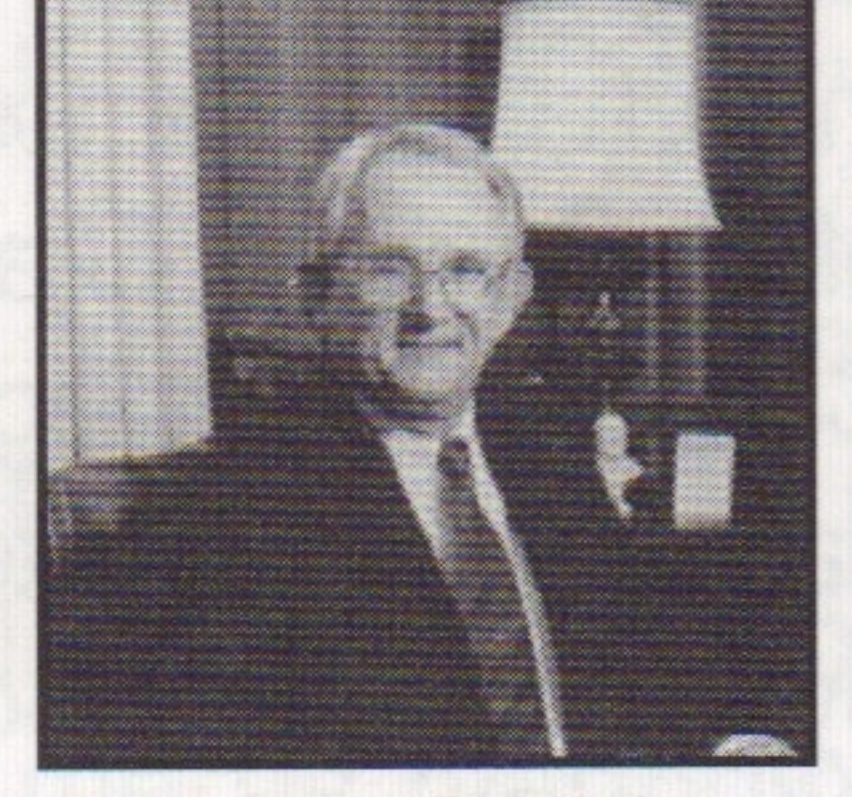
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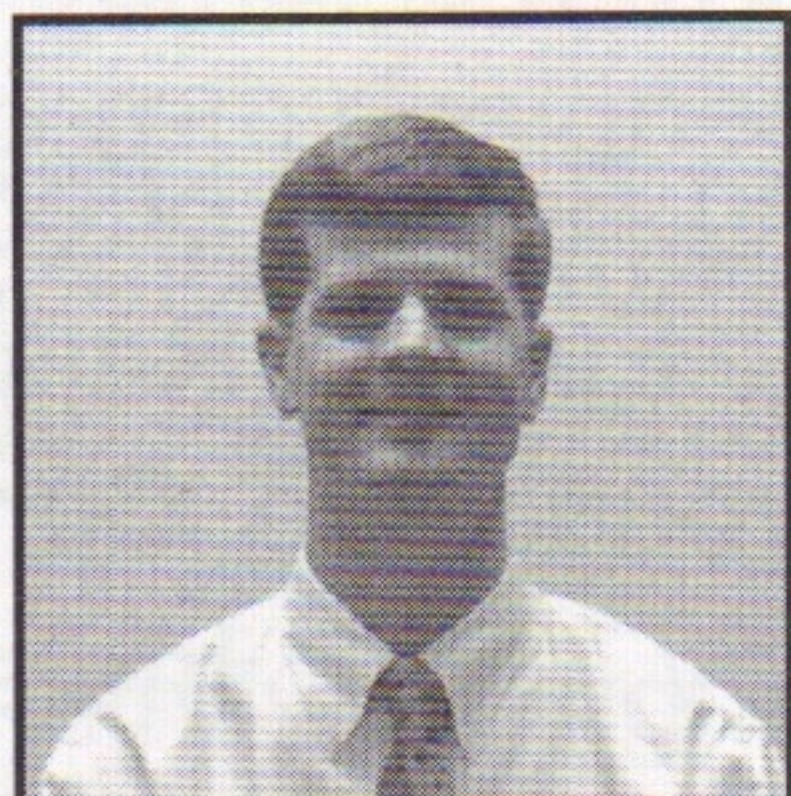
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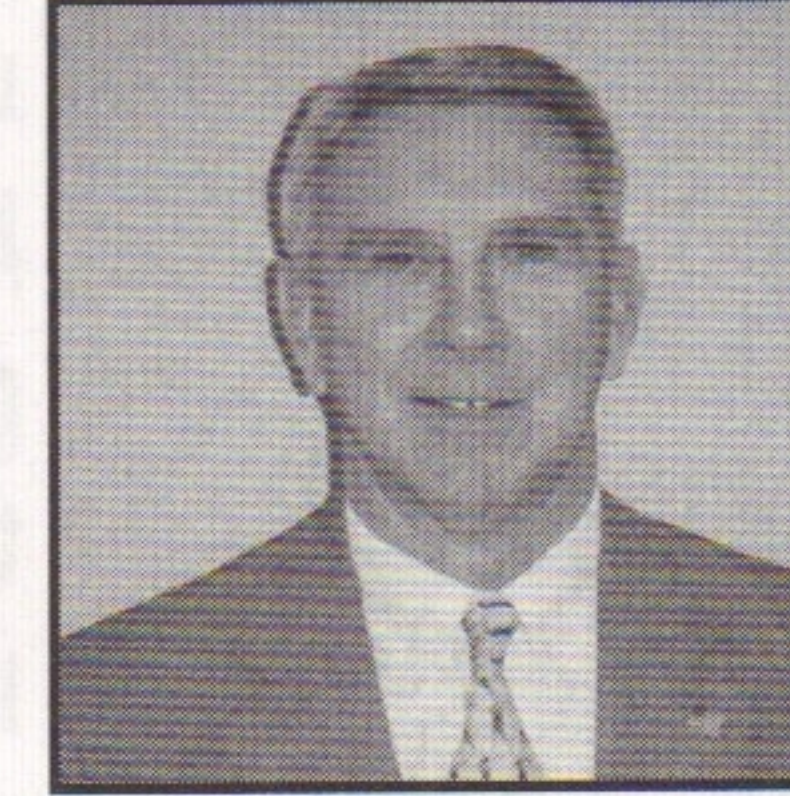
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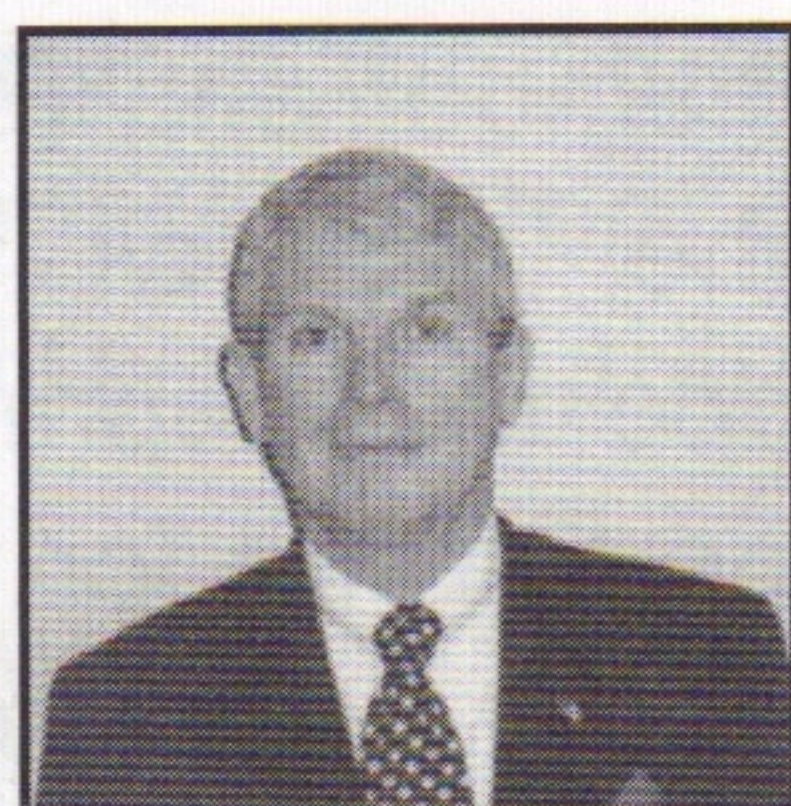
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ACA People

Bevill State's Brown Appointed to Board

Marthanne Brown, associate Dean of the Jasper Campus of Bevill State Community College, has been appointed by Governor Bob Riley to the Board of Directors of the Alabama Humanities Foundation.



"I would like to express my deepest appreciation to Governor Bob Riley for appointing me to the Alabama Humanities Foundation Board," Brown said. "It is quite an honor, one that that I will work hard to live up to as I assist in promoting the humanities throughout the state of Alabama."

Brown's service on the board will run concurrent with the governor's term in office, ending in 2007.

"To receive an appointment of this nature speaks highly of Mrs. Brown, and I am pleased that she has the opportunity to work with an organization that she cares deeply about," Bevill State

President **Dr. Harold Wade** said. "I am also proud for the recognition our institution receives when one of our administrators receives an appointment such as this from the governor."

The Alabama Humanities Foundation (AHF) serves as the state affiliate for the National Endowment for the Humanities. The mission of the AHF is to create and foster opportunities, through grants and AHF-conducted programs, for scholars and the public together to explore human values and meanings through the humanities.

To accomplish this goal, the AHF grants funds provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) to colleges and universities, libraries, museums, historical organizations, arts organizations, schools, and community groups for a wide range of public humanities programs.

LBW's Jones Receives Certificate in Fund Raising Management

Joree Jones, associate Dean for Institutional Advancement & Planning at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College, recently completed the requirements for the Certificate in Fund Raising Management. The Fund Raising School promotes the highest standards in professional fundraising and the body of knowledge informing the philanthropic tradition.



The Fund Raising School offers a Certificate in Fund Raising Management through the Center on Philanthropy at Indiana University. This certificate recognizes and rewards a commitment to fundraising leadership through successful completion of four core courses offered by the School.

Ms. Jones is a member and Past President of the Council for Alabama Resource Development and is the College Liaison for the Lurleen B. Wallace Community College Foundation and the MacArthur State Technical College Foundation.

Drake State President Receives Award



J.F. Drake State Technical College President, **Dr. Helen McAlpine**, was recently recognized as one of six honorees at the 7th Annual Path of Honors Award program sponsored by the Huntsville-

Madison County Senior Center. The award is given annually to a group of community leaders which have excelled in their fields and ultimately have provided a path of distinction as a major contributor to the Huntsville community and the Senior Center.

McAlpine was presented with a brick inscribed with her name, which will be installed in a path surrounding one of the gardens on the premises of the Thomas W. Davidson Senior Center.

Lawson State Instructor Becomes National Pacesetter

Alga Gaston, GM BSEP instructor at Lawson State Community College, has successfully



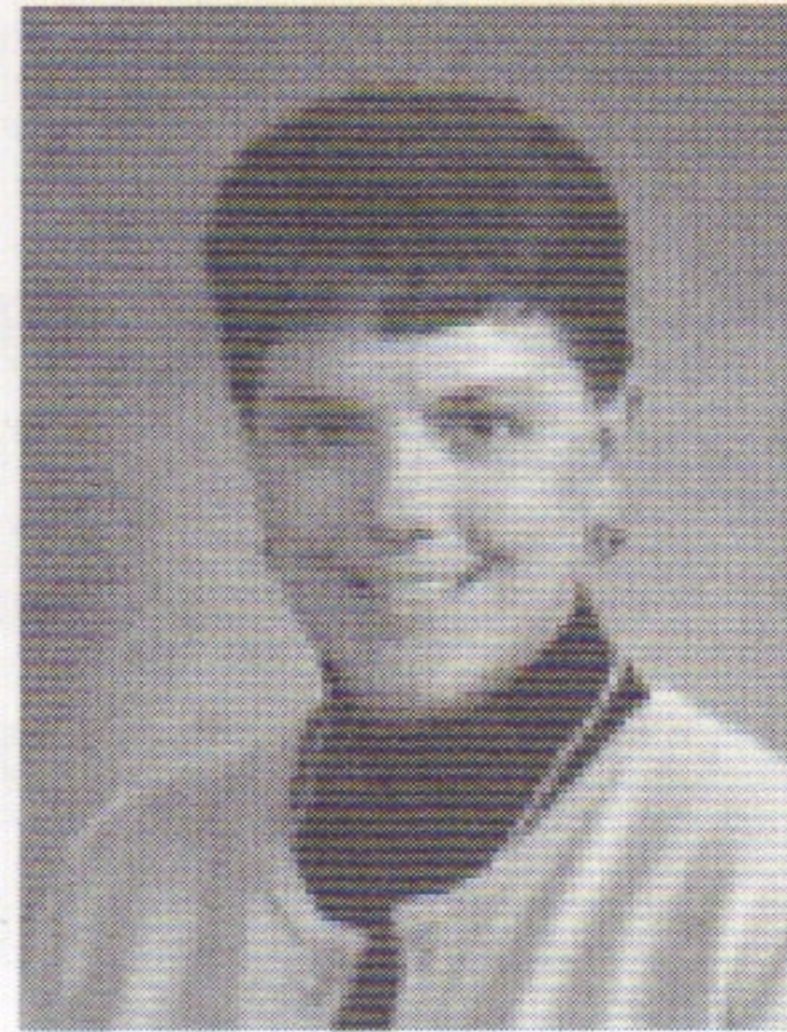
completed the required training path for instructors in the General Motors Body Service Educational Program. Mr. Gaston is one of two instructors in the country, and the only one in the Southeast Region, who has obtained 100% training in two of three areas of study.

The new Body Service Educational Program at Lawson State, the first of its kind in Alabama, is a two-year auto body program designed to upgrade the technical competence and the professional level of the "entry-level" technician. The curriculum is jointly designed by GM and Lawson State and leads to the Associate in Occupational Technology Degree. This program involves attending classroom lectures and laboratory experiences at the college and requires the student to work at a General Motors dealership or an independent auto body shop.

Lawson State Community College is the first and only institution of higher learning in the state to offer the GM BSEP Program and the only Historically Black College and University in the country to participate in this partnership.

WSSC's Adams Receives International Leadership Award

Alina Adams, director of the physical therapist assistant program at Wallace State Community College - Hanceville, was



presented the Community College Chair Academy's International Exemplary Leadership Award at the Academy's annual conference for community college leaders in Ft. Lauderdale, FL.

This award is reserved for those leaders in postsecondary institutions worldwide who have modeled best practices to advance academic and administrative leadership development. According to the Academy, "What makes this award so special is that each leader was nominated by someone within their college. There can be no higher honor than being recognized by your colleagues."

Adams, of Boaz, was nominated by Wallace State Director of Retention **LaDonna Allen** and dental instructor **Dr. Teresa Ray Connell** for her work spearheading Wallace State's new Atlas Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning and for chairing the college's professional development activities.

"I don't see myself as a leader," said Adams. "I simply have several things I'm passionate about - among them, teaching and professional development - and I find myself surrounded by equally passionate people willing to pursue

those same dreams and ideas!"

"What an honor to stand among such talented individuals. It is humbling to realize that my colleagues think of me as belonging in the company of excellence," she said.

Adams has been an advocate for implementing technology into the classroom and developing learning-centered curricula. She was one of the first faculty members named Wallace State Employee of the Month when the program was begun last spring. She was among the Wallace State faculty and staff invited to make presentations about innovative approaches to professional development at the Alabama College Association's annual conference last fall and at the League for Innovation's annual meeting earlier this year.

"Alina certainly deserves all the recognition she can get," said Allen, who co-nominated her for The Chair Academy Award.

The Chair Academy is an organization dedicated to advancing academic and administrative leadership training worldwide. The Academy's conference provided programs that addressed the administrative and academic needs of community and technical college leaders and developed the skills required for effective leadership.

Student News

NACC Yearbook Wins Second Gold Medal

The Northeast Alabama Community College *Backroads* 2004 yearbook was recently awarded a Gold Medal first place honor by the prestigious Columbia Scholastic Press Association (CSPA) in New York during its annual competition for high school and college yearbooks.

Judging consisted of a page-by-page critique in the categories of concept, coverage, writing, photography and design. The Northeast yearbook came only 47 points short of a perfect score of 1000.

The judge's comments included the following: "The theme, design and writing in this book are very nice and clean! You should all be very proud of yourselves for producing a book your school can cheer about!...Overall, this is a GOLD! Good job!"

Backroads Advisor **Sheila Akins** said, "I appreciate so much the effort put forth by Editor **Jeffery Hawes** and the staff who did this book. They spent many hours in addition to their required class time to make this yearbook the winner that it turned out to be."

Full time members of the Backroads 2004 staff were **Tiffany Bare**, **Rebecca Fossett**, **Cia Burke Lindsey**, and **Tonya Blackwell Taber**. One semester members were **Rachel Brown**, **Bridgett Ott**, **Josh McClure**, **Danielle Wallingsford**, and **Haley Hale**.

Jeff State Student Becomes First Graduate in State with After-School Concentration

For **Shante Terry**, May will be a month of firsts. She will become Jefferson State's first Child Development student to receive an associate degree with a concentration in After-School (School-Age). Terry will not only be the first Jefferson State graduate with this concentration, but will be the first in Alabama.

The After-School concentration is for professionals working in Before- and After-School programs. This is a specialized degree track because after school programs are not home, not school, not child care, but their own unique field with their own unique challenges and rewards.

Terry is a single mother of two and works full-time at Vestavia Hills Elementary Liberty Park with children grades K-6. She supervises four employees and cares for sixty-five children who attend the program.

Gadsden Students Make First Repair Job

Three first semester students in the Auto Body/Collision Repair Program at the East Broad Street Campus of Gadsden State Community College have made their first repair job one to remember. **Joe Mashburn**, Instructor in the Auto Body Repair program, said the three repaired the front end of a four wheel drive Nissan pickup and then repainted the vehicle.

Mashburn said repairing and repainting are part of the four semester program but the students were very proud of the work they did since all of them, **Shane Barksdale** of Gallant and **Jay Strother** and **Amber Moody**, both from the Anniston area, are first semester students. He said the estimated cost for the work to have been in a commercial body shop would have been between \$4000 and \$5000 but having the students do the work cut the cost to less than half that.

Mashburn explained the program is designed to introduce students to auto refinishing and collision repair, including computerized estimating and frame/unibody repair. All of the vehicles repaired come from students, GSCC faculty and staff or state owned vehicles. No outside work is done.

Student News

Shelton State's Buccaneers Enjoy Winning Season

The 2005 season has been phenomenal for the Shelton State Buccaneers. The men's basketball team finished eighth in the National Junior College Athletic Association Division I Tournament in Hutchinson, KS on March 27. They finished the season 28-8. **Tarrance Crump** and **Kiana Robinson** were named to the third All American Team by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Crump was also awarded the Bud Obee Small Player Award by the NJCAA. The award is presented annually in honor of B.C. "Bud" Obee. The award is presented to the player who most represents good character, leadership and loyalty to his coaches and fellow teammates. The winner cannot be physically taller than 6' 1".

Coaches **Barry Mohun** and **Madonna Thompson** were named the Alabama Community College Athletic Association Coaches of the year for the northern division.

JDCC's Phi Theta Kappa Chapter Wins Awards

Members of the Jefferson Davis Community College chapter of Phi Theta Kappa recently attended the annual Alabama Regional Convention in Montgomery. While at the convention, the chapter was recognized as a "Five Star Chapter" — the highest level in the organization. To earn this rating, the chapter had to complete many projects and activities involving service, scholarship, leadership, and fellowship. These activities included sponsoring the JDCC Mathematics Tournament, assisting in new student registration and advising, collecting and distributing books to local children, and participating in other activities relating to Phi Theta Kappa's Honors Studies.

In addition, individual chapter representatives earned two of the top awards given at the convention. Jefferson Davis student **Le'Anne Jones** was named "Outstanding Member" for the Alabama Region. The award goes to the most outstanding non-officer Phi Theta Kappa member in the state. Le'Anne's outstanding academic record and her service to the chapter, college, and community earned her the region's top award.

Chapter advisor **Mike Tedder** was recognized as the region's "Most Distinguished Advisor." This award was given for his exceptional service to the local Phi Theta Kappa chapter. Other JDCC students recognized at the convention include Chapter President **Janet Byrd**, Chapter Vice President **Suzanne Walker**, and the chapter's All Alabama Academic Team nominee **Alexis Grace**.

GSCC Lady Cardinals Advance to National Tournament

For the second year in a row, the Gadsden State Community College Lady Cardinals basketball team made it to the National Junior College Athletic Association Women's Basketball Tournament in Salina, Kansas.

The Lady Cardinals made it to Salina by winning the Alabama Community College Conference championship for the second year in a row, defeating Shelton State in Tuscaloosa by a final score of 78 to 69.

Although they had the number 15 seed in the tournament in Kansas, they ousted the 10th ranked team in the country, Panola College in Texas, and came close of defeating Moberly Area College which entered the tournament ranked second in the country. Gadsden State ended the season with a 25-7 record

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Enriching Lives

CACC Breaks Ground for One-Stop Center

Displaced workers in the Talladega area will soon have a one-stop center where they can receive all the training they need to reenter the workforce. State officials along with Central Alabama Community College representatives recently broke ground on the Talladega One-Stop Center.

Once the center is complete, it will have adult education classes as well as other CACC courses. It will also house the Career Link/Employment Services office and Focused Industry Training, and space will be available for industry for training needs in the area.

Gov. Bob Riley, who was one of the keynote speakers at the groundbreaking ceremony, said that the center would serve as a prototype for workforce training for the entire state. "This is a great day for Talladega and also Alabama because we have changed our way of thought about job training," he said. "We can't do it the old way anymore. Today is a global economy. This will redefine how we handle job training, and it will be a true one-stop shop."

The center will allow displaced workers to receive training in a new field, search for a job, and get a GED or associate's degree all in one location.

It will be about two years before



the new center is complete, but planning for the facility took much longer. Thanks to the efforts of State **Sen. Jim Preuitt** the center finally became a reality and was approved by both the State Board of Education and the Alabama College System. Once the governor allocated \$3 million for the center, the project was official.

While the center will be located in Talladega, **Dr. Roy Johnson**, chancellor of the Alabama College System, said it would offer "hope" to surrounding communities as well. "This is a very special day," explained Johnson. "This will usher in a new era of hope for all the surrounding communities. Now we are entering into a new era of access."

Johnson said the center would allow displaced workers to find higher paying jobs in a highly skilled workforce. He also said that it would help attract industry because industries want a trained, qualified workforce.

Susan Salatto, president of CACC, said that she was happy the community college could be a part of providing a trained workforce to the area, and by working together with the state it was finally accomplished. "Thanks to

the tireless efforts of Sen. Jim Preuitt, the Talladega One-Stop Center will soon be a reality," she said. "This center exemplifies the ability of education, industry, and governmental agencies to come together to meet the specific needs of the citizens. Central Alabama Community College is proud to be a part of this exciting new venture, and we look forward to serving the people of Talladega County."

CVCC Receives Funds for Training

Chattahoochee Valley Community College has been awarded \$350,000 to assist the school in establishing a public service academy to train first responders. The funds are included in H.R. 4818, the Omnibus Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2005.

"Congressman **Mike Rogers** (R-Anniston) and his staff have been working diligently on CVCC receiving this funding. I am extremely grateful to him and his aides for their work," stated **Dr. Laurel Blackwell**, President of CVCC.

The funding will be used to develop a public service academy that will link three established programs offered at CVCC: criminal justice, emergency medical service, and fire science. The money will help CVCC in two areas that will be critical to the success of the public service academy: acquiring state-of-the-art public service teaching materials and developing the curriculum for the academy.

Expanding Opportunities

WCC Student Redefines the Workforce

Growing up, **Gabby Terry** realized she was not like many of the other girls she knew. "My Barbie had a truck and a dump truck," Terry smiled. "She didn't have the convertible."

Terry always dreamed of becoming a mechanic, but never had much of a chance to get her hands dirty. "I tried working on cars, but the guys never let me help," she said. Now, those same friends call Terry asking for advice.

The 19-year old is halfway through her first semester in Wallace Community College-Dothan's Toyota Technical Education Network (T-TEN) program; and she has already learned enough to change the battery, the CV axle and the motor mount on her own Toyota Corolla.

According to WCC T-TEN

Coordinator **Tom Sheff**, detail-oriented women like Terry face excellent prospects in the automotive industry. The job requires troubleshooting and dexterity-skills at which women usually excel. "You don't have to be able to pick up a 100 pound transmission to be an excellent automotive technician," Sheff said. "It's no longer like the old days where we'd pop a hood and guess.



Above: WCC Toyota T-TEN students Aimee Collum of Abbeville and Gabby Terry (right) of Coffee Springs are among the growing number of Wallace students training for careers once off limits because of their gender.

Today it is a systematic approach to diagnosis. We use the same approach used on the space shuttle."

Sheff said automotive technicians can earn anywhere from \$25,000 to \$50,000 after five years as a master technician. Salaries go as high as \$100,000 for those with experience.

Terry, who is one of just five females in the program of 50, encourages others to think about working under the hood of a car. "If you are a woman and this is what you want to do, don't hold back because it is not a man's field anymore," she said.

When she graduates, Terry plans to work for a dealership and one day possibly open her own garage. "It will be easier for a woman to come talk to a woman when she needs to get her car worked on," Terry said.

NW-SCC Offers Displaced Workers Tuition Waiver

The Alabama State Board of Education has authorized Northwest-Shoals Community College to provide a 50 percent tuition waiver for personnel who will become unemployed as a result of the closing of Tee Jays Manufacturing in Florence.

The resolution will assist 220 affected employees in seeking training or retraining through programs offered by the college. The resolution states that a tuition waiver of 50 percent be granted to eligible displaced workers of Tee Jays Manufacturing enrolling in college beginning Spring 2005 and ending Spring 2007. This waiver will assist displaced workers in securing the necessary skills to re-enter the workforce.

The Alabama College System seeks to provide accessible quality educational opportunities, promote economic growth, and enhance the quality of life for the people of Alabama. "At NW-SCC, we feel it is our responsibility to provide this community with the opportunity for training. Education is vital to improved living standards and continued fiscal growth for our area," stated NW-SCC President, **Dr. Humphrey Lee**.

The tuition waiver is restricted to displaced workers of Tee Jays Manufacturing who are not eligible to receive funding under the Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) or other similar and/or related assistance programs.

Enriching Lives

66-Year-Old Decided to Follow Her Dream and Become a Truck-driving Woman

At age 66, **Lelia Davis Mitchell** decided to switch gears.

She went back to school and changed careers. And now she is, literally, changing gears.

Her classroom was the cab of a tractor-trailer truck, where she learned how to drive and handle the big rigs.

"I always wanted to drive the big trucks," said the retired postal worker, who grew up riding in and driving her dad's smaller trucks. So she went to school to learn how to drive one.

The single Mobile woman recently completed the Bishop State Community College Truck Driving program and earned a certificate and commercial driving license.

Harry Holloway, dean of Bishop State's technical school, said it's not everyday you see a woman Mitchell's age taking a truck driving course.

"Most of our senior citizen students are male," Holloway said. Mitchell did well in the course, Holloway said. "That's good for anybody," he said of her 3.6 grade point average.

She hopes to one day drive a semi. In the meantime, Mitchell is now behind the wheel of a Colonial Trailways bus, a job she got after receiving her commercial driving license.

Holloway said in recent years they have seen an increase in the number of women taking the eight-week class.

"You better believe it was a hard eight weeks," she said, laughing. "You had to be there eight hours and you were driving basically eight hours a day. 'I cried and prayed and cried some more.'"

"The first time on the road when I had to shift gears I was frantic," she said. "But once the instructor helped me I was fine."

Mitchell didn't worry that her age or 5-foot-1 inch frame would be a problem driving the truck. She was concerned about how she would climb inside one. "With me being as short as I am I had trouble getting in and out," she said.

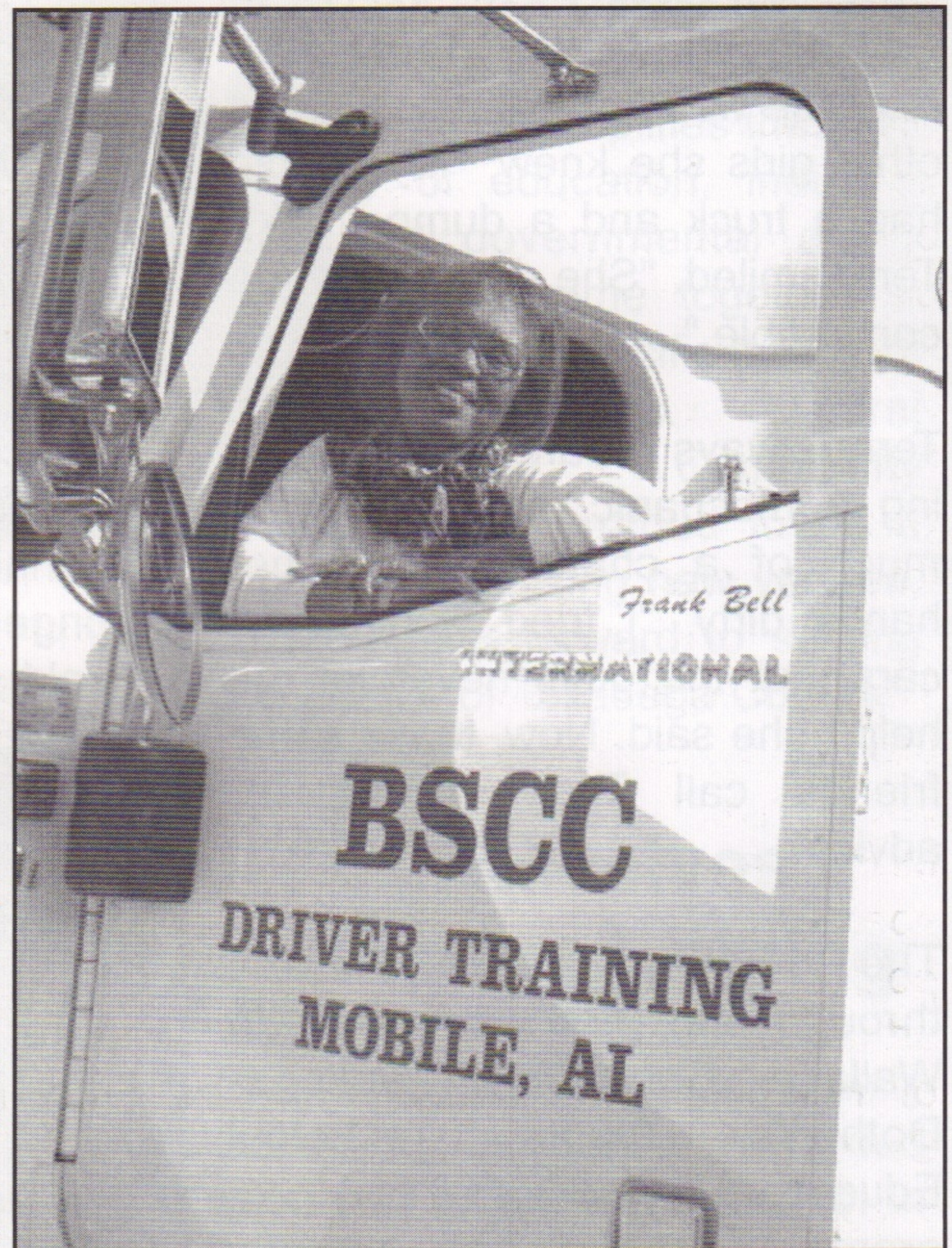
While she's not one to give up, she did think about quitting school.

"One day I had to do a 45-degree angle back up with the trailer," she recalled. "I couldn't get that trailer in there and I cried all the way home."

She was ready to quit. But a friend who drives trucks and her instructor encouraged her to stay in school.

"The next morning I went in there and as soon as I got in that truck I backed it up," said Mitchell. "I'm not a person to give up."

"I knew it would take me a little time and once I got it together I



Lelia Davis Mitchell, who recently earned her commercial driving license, is pictured here with one of the big rigs from the college's truck driving program.

could do it."

Her new career has brought mixed reactions from family and friends. Friends cheered her on.

"They said, 'Go girl. Go girl,'" she said. "Most of them asked, 'How do you drive a big truck? I told them, 'It's just a big car with a long tail on it.'"

By: Renee Busby
Mobile Register
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Expanding Opportunities

Gadsden State Opens New Facility — McClellan Center

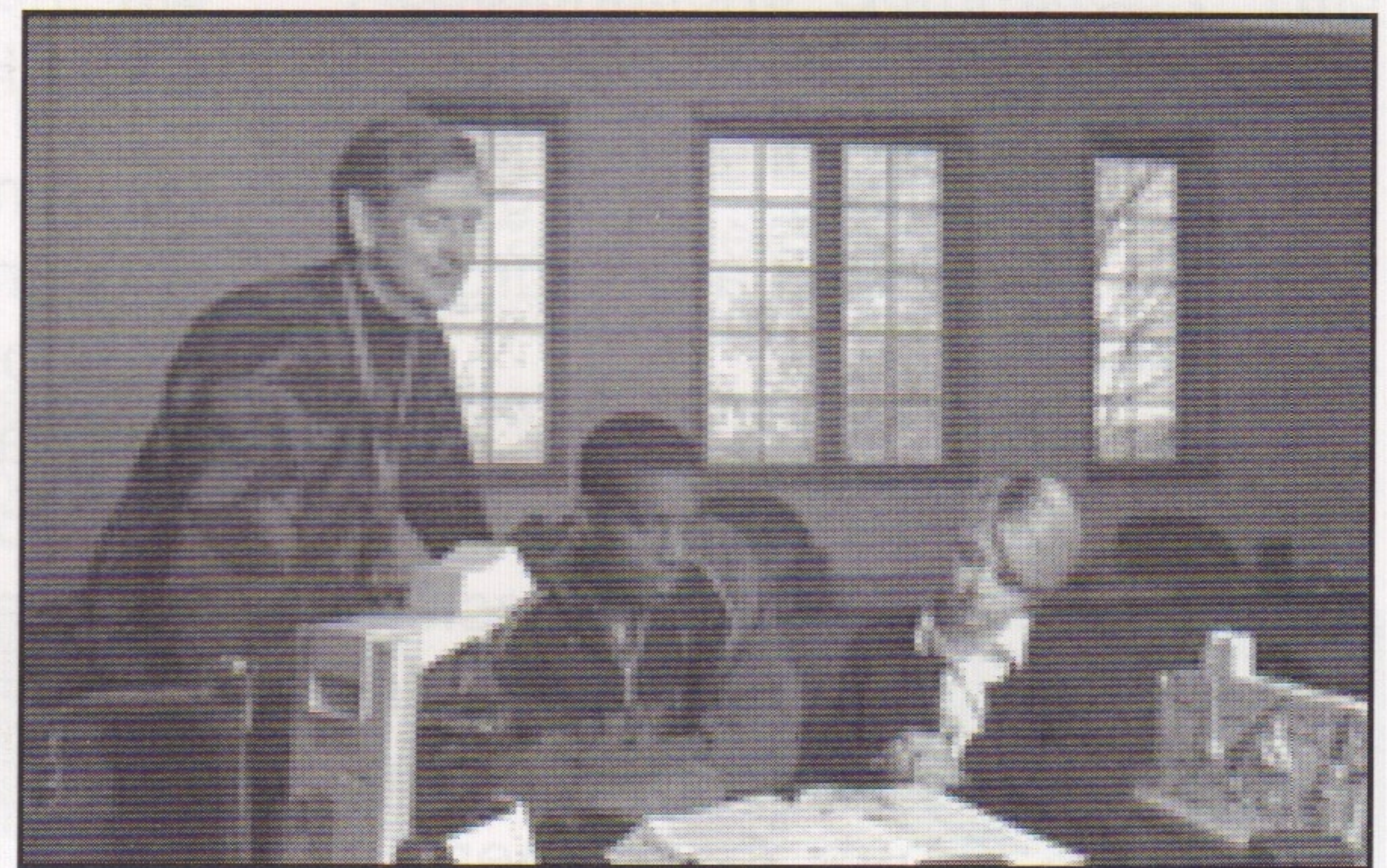
After four years of planning and two years of construction, the McClellan Center of Gadsden State Community College was opened for students to attend classes on November 29, 2004. The new facility replaces the Anniston Center of GSCC which has been housed in the old Noble Street School just north of downtown Anniston.

The McClellan Center is a joint project of Gadsden State and Jacksonville State University. More than \$8 million has been spent renovating the old military police building into a state-of-the-art facility. **Dr. Jim Prucnal**, dean of Financial and Administrative Services for GSCC, says the two-story, 140,000 square foot building has classrooms for both GSCC

and JSU. Prucnal, who was instrumental in overseeing the construction process, says there is also a 500 seat auditorium, a bookstore and a learning resource center that will be shared by both institutions.

"This facility allows a renovated building to operate as a state-of-the-art higher education center," Prucnal said, "It will be a great place for students to learn." The new center will allow for an expansion of classes with computer, biology and chemistry laboratories available. In addition, it is equipped for distance learning with on-line classes available.

GSCC Vice President **John E. Blue, II** stated, "We are proud to join JSU in our second educational partnership endeavor. This facility will allow us to expand our course offerings and intensify our technology which will benefit our students. The Ayers Campus and McClellan Center will enhance our educational resources in Calhoun County."



L to R: McClellan instructor Dr. Bennett Tucker with student Wayne Pernel and instructor Chris Dilge.

Jacki Beck Educational Consultant

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Groundbreaking Held for Calhoun's New Health Sciences Center

Calhoun hosted a groundbreaking ceremony for the college's new Health Sciences Center on its Decatur campus last October. Earlier this year, approval was granted by the Alabama State Board of Education to construct the \$14 million, 64,609 square foot building. Upon completion, the building will become home for all of Calhoun's health-related programs, which include nursing, dental assisting, emergency medical services, and surgical technology.

"Due to the increasing demand for skilled health care professionals and the outstanding reputation the college has in the community, Calhoun has seen a growing interest in our nursing and other health-related programs. The additional classroom and state-of-the art lab space that will be provided in this new facility will allow the college to

increase enrollment in our health programs and to help meet employer demands," commented Calhoun President **Dr. Marilyn C. Beck**. "For example, our nursing programs currently enroll 200 students. The new building will allow for an increase of over 100 students in this program alone," added Beck.

During remarks to the over 350 people in attendance, Dr. Beck announced that through the generosity of the four local hospitals who partnered with the College for the groundbreaking (Athens/Limestone Hospital, Crestwood Medical Center, Huntsville Hospital, and Parkway Medical Center) twelve scholarships of \$1000 each will be available for students in the nursing programs.

Alabama State Board of Education member **Dr. Mary Jane Caylor** (District 8) also provided comments. Referring to a report issued by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission following the recent re-affirmation of Calhoun's nursing programs, Caylor stated, "Students chose to attend Calhoun's nursing program because of its reputation and quality of education."



Enterprise-Ozark Begins Baseball Season

Mayor **Kenneth Boswell** threw the first pitch at Enterprise-Ozark Community College's Boll Weevil Stadium where the Weevil Men's Baseball Team played the first season game recently.

After the pitch, EOCC Assistant to the President for Community and Economic Development **Terry Spicer** joined Coach **Tim Hulsey** in presenting a framed ESJC baseball jersey representing the College's history and a plaque to Mayor Boswell. The plaque's inscription reads, "In appreciation to Mayor Kenneth Boswell for your steadfast support of Enterprise-Ozark Community College. A College of tomorrow with a foundation laid by local leadership, making the Wiregrass better one student athlete at a time."

Spicer also presented a baseball signed by the team and an EOCC windbreaker symbolizing the College's present and future to the mayor.

Jeff State to Offer New Program

Beginning Fall 2005, Jefferson State will offer a Veterinary Technology Program. Graduates of this program are trained to assist veterinarians with the care and treatment of both large and small animals. The program will be seeking accreditation from the American Veterinary Medical Association.

Students enrolled in the program will be able to complete the lecture portion of veterinary courses on the Internet and complete laboratories and practical experiences in a veterinary practice in their home communities.

Progress Continues on Construction Projects at Southern Union

An addition to the Higginbotham Academic Center on the Opelika Campus of Southern Union State Community College was completed in December of 2004. The new wing houses the offices of academic advisors as well as deans' offices.

Construction of the Renaissance Center on the Wadley Campus, a new fine arts complex, is near completion. Scheduled to be completed by Summer 2005, the 48,000 square-foot building will be home to a 200 seat recital hall, classrooms, a conference area and faculty offices.

The Administration Building on the Wadley Campus should be ready for occupancy in early 2006. The 28,000 square-foot building will replace the original administration building that was built in 1969, and will house the President's office and conference room, the business office, student services and financial aid, academic advising and the bookstore.

Among other ongoing projects, the old gymnasium is undergoing structural renovations, and the maintenance department moved into a newly constructed building in early 2005. The former maintenance shop will be dismantled to make room for a new dormitory that is planned for construction in the near future.

The next project on the list, construction of a new Sports Complex on the Wadley campus, has been approved by the Alabama State Board of Education.

Congressman Provides Funds for Athens State Historic Hall

U.S. Representative **Bud Cramer** (D-Ala.) presented \$97,000 to help Athens State University restore the historic McCandless Hall.

McCandless Hall was originally constructed in 1914. It is part of Athens State University's Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

"As the oldest institution of higher learning in the state, Athens State University has a number of sites on campus with historical significance," said Cramer. "McCandless Hall is no exception."

Unfortunately, McCandless Hall is starting to show its age and should be refurbished. This funding is just a small part of a community effort to save McCandless Hall,

and together, I know we will be successful."

Representative Cramer secured today's funding in the Fiscal Year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Bill, which the President signed into law last December. Cramer is a member of the House Appropriations Committee. This committee is responsible for providing funds for all areas of the federal government as well as vital programs that help meet the needs of the nation.



Dr. Jerry Bartlett, President, Athens State University, shaking hands with U.S. Rep. Bud Cramer in front of McCandless Hall.

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Snead State Mobility LPN Program Ahead of Schedule

Snead State Community College has implemented a new Mobility LPN to Associate Degree Nurse Program beginning in the summer semester, a year ahead of schedule.

The program allows for Licensed Practical Nurses to be tested and assessed based on their knowledge and expertise. LPNs who pass the NSG 110 Nursing Career Mobility Assessment would be eligible to enter the Mobility program, thereby receiving credit for two semesters toward their Registered Nurse degree.

"Students taking advantage of the Mobility LPN program will not have to start from scratch to earn their RN degrees. They will be

able to build on the experience they already have. We're very excited to offer this a year sooner than we originally anticipated. This opportunity will add to the success of our nursing program," said Snead State President **Dr. Devin Stephenson**.

Health Sciences Director **Dianne Watts** said, "Now, our LPNs usually take five semesters to become RNs. This will allow them to complete their requirements in three semesters. With the shortage of nurses in the medical field, this creates a wonderful opportunity for us to get our nurses into the workforce faster."

Admission to the program is competitive. The number of students who were admitted was limited by

the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. Qualified applicants were rank-ordered, and only a pre-determined number was selected to register for the assessment.

Among the minimum requirements for registration are unconditional admission to and being in good standing with Snead State; a minimum grade point average of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale; meeting the essential functions or technical standards for nursing; completion of preliminary courses; documentation of employment as an LPN; a valid Alabama practical nurse license; and a score of 76 or higher on the COMPASS Reading Examination or a related ACT reading score of 17 or higher.

Lawson State Provides Job Training Through FIT

The Focused Industry Training Program (FIT) is now offered at Lawson State Community College and provides training and job placement for individuals with limited education and/or employment experience. The FIT Program, a direct link to industry employment, will assist manufacturers with an assessment of needs and customized training classes to upgrade worker's skills due to technological or process advances. The FIT program is funded through the federal Workforce Investment Act and the two-year college system.

The FIT curriculum offers knowledge, skills and abilities needed to secure entry-level employment. Training topics and opportunities include basic education, computer skills, classroom supplies, problem solving, continuous educational credits, workplace behavior, and employment assistance.



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Awards, Achievements, and Recognition

Several Chatahoochie Valley Community College employees recently received degrees. **Dr. David Hodge** received his Ed.D. from Auburn University; **Dr. James Lowe** received his Ph.D. from San Francisco Technical University; **Sharntasha Johnson** received her B.S. in Business from Faulkner University; **Adam Thomas** received his M.B.A. from Troy University; and **Gloria Williams** received her B.S. in Human Services from Troy University.

Two employees of Faulkner State Community College were recently awarded an Ed.D. **Dr. Ritchie Dulaney**, head volleyball and tennis coach, and **Dr. Maria Bridges Willis**, Language Arts Division Chair, both received their degrees from NOVA Southeastern University.

Teri Bryson has joined the Calhoun Community College staff as the new Executive Director of the Calhoun Foundation.

J.F. Drake State Technical College Student Services Management Director **Dr. Patricia Sims**, was recently appointed the treasurer of the Alabama Deans of Student Affairs Association.

Dr. Steve Hubbard, English instructor at Lurleen B. Wallace Community College has been named to the newly created position of executive secretary for the Association of College English Teachers of Alabama.

Alice Roberts, dean of Instruction and Student Services at Beville State Community College, has been named as a 2005 winner of the Alabama League for Nursing's prestigious Lamplighter Award.

David Jones was recently named the new Dean of Student Affairs at Jefferson Davis Community College.

Jefferson State's Director of Grant Development, **Dr. Janice Roberts** was recently awarded one of the Council for Resource Development Region IV Specialist Training Scholarships.

Bishop State Community College President **Dr. Yvonne Kennedy** was recently awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA).

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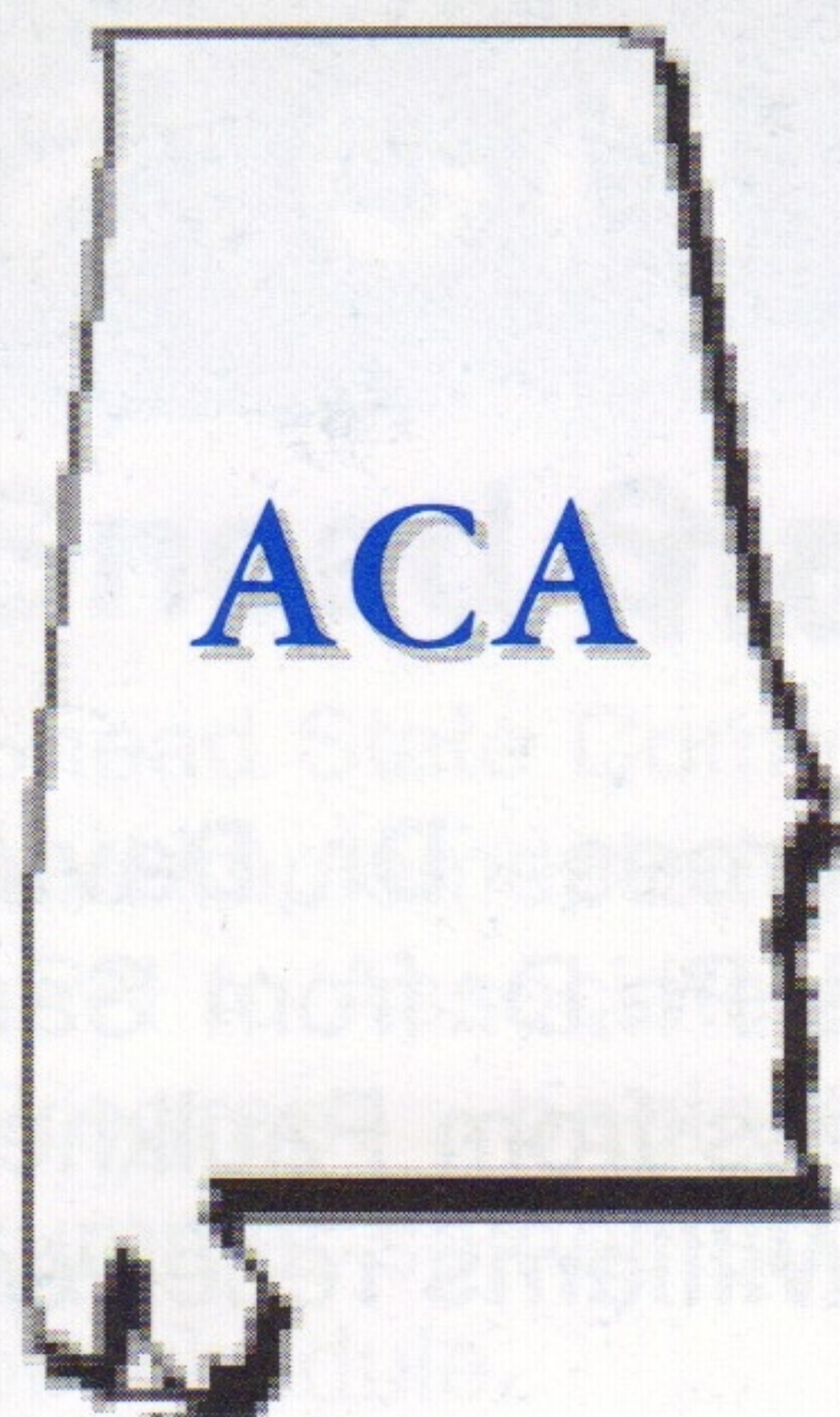


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CALL FOR

PRESENTATION PROPOSALS

The 2005 Alabama College Association conference will be held November 20-22, 2005 at the Sheraton Birmingham Hotel. This year's conference theme of "The Alabama College System: Enriching Lives by Expanding Opportunities" provides a broad umbrella for presentations related to the following workshop tracks:

- I. Teaching and Learning**
- II. Student Success**
- III. Staff Development**
- IV. Leadership**
- V. Workforce Development**

Proposals for one-hour presentations are invited for each of the five workshop tracks. We have created an online submission form for your convenience. If you are interested in presenting, please contact Dr. Linda Hooton via email at aca@jeffstateonline.com to request an online submission form.

Proposals are requested by June 1, 2005.

Make plans to attend the

2005 ACA Conference

November 20 — 22

Sheraton Birmingham Hotel and Civic Center

- Professional Development Workshops
- Adult Education Workshops
- Commission Meetings
- Association Meetings